

Applicants appreciate the courtesies shown to Applicants' representative by Examiners King and Graham during the February 12 personal interview. Applicants' separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

Applicants also appreciate the Examiner's indication that claim 9 would be allowable if rewritten to include all the features of the rejected based claim and any intervening claims. For the reasons discussed below, Applicants submit that all pending claims are allowable.

Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Specific language in claims 1 and 10 is identified as forming the basis for the rejection. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication during the February 12 personal interview that the language of claims 1 and 10 cited in the Office Action is not indefinite or unclear. Claims 1 and 10 have been amended responsive to the rejection. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

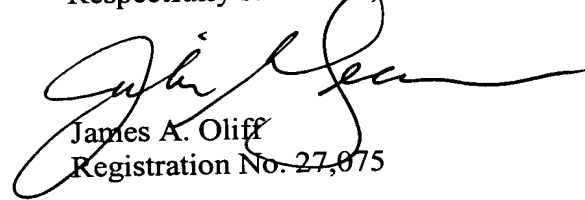
Claims 1-8, 10-11 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Maisch et al. (hereinafter "Maisch"), U.S. Patent No. 5,952,799 in view of Poertzgen et al. (hereinafter "Poertzgen"), U.S. Patent No. 5,979,999. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

As agreed to during the personal interview, the combination of Maish and Poertzgen fails to disclose or suggest a brake fluid pressure control device, wherein if one of the first connector and the second connector falls into an abnormally connected condition, at least one of the brakes controlled via the abnormally connected connector can still be controlled, as recited in claims 1, 10 and 26. For at least these reasons, Applicants submit that claims 1-8, 10-11 and 26 are patentable over the combination of Masich and Poertzgen. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-11 and 26 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: March 27, 2003

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